

Message Text

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ACTION CPR-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 ST-01 PER-03 /016 W

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R 301615Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8454

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4134

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: U.S. CUSTOMS EXEMPTIONS

1. AT PRESENT TIME COSTA RICAN CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES PERFORM INSPECTION OF BOTH HHE AND AUTOMOBILES OF DIPLOMATIC AND NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WHEN ITEMS ARRIVE IN COSTA RICA. HHE CANNOT BE DELIVERED TO EMPLOYEE AT RESIDENCE UNTIL CUSTOMS INSPECTORS ARE AVAILABLE, ALWAYS AFTER 6 P.M., TO OPEN AND INSPECT CONTENTS OF EACH CARTON INSIDE PACKING VANS. ALTERNATE PROCESS, WHICH EMBASSY DOES NOT CONSIDER DESIRABLE, IS TO HAVE VANS OPENED IN CUSTOMS WAREHOUSE, INSPECTED CARTON BY CARTON, AND RECLOSED FOR DELIVERY TO RESIDENCE. AVAILABILITY OF CUSTOMS INSPECTORS CAN DELAY DELIVERY OF HHE FOR THREE OR FOUR DAYS, AND ALWAYS RESULTS IN PAYMENT OF OVERTIME TO CUSTOMS' INSPECTORS AS WORK MUST BE PERFORMED IN EVENING HOURS. AUTO-MOBILES MUST BE INSPECTED IN CUSTOMS WAREHOUSE AREA, AND, DUE TO LIMITED NUMBER OF PERSONNEL IN COSTA RICAN CUSTOMS, PROCESS USUALLY DELAYS DELIVERY OF VEHICLE TO OWNER FROM THREE TO FIVE DAYS. THIS INSPECTION PROCESS CONSISTS OF VERIFYING THAT MOTOR OR SERIAL NUMBER OF VEHICLE CORRESPONDS WITH THAT LISTED ON BILL OF LADING. IT IS NOT, REPEAT NOT, A SAFETY INSPECTION.

2. PRIOR TO REQUESTING EXEMPTION FROM THIS CUSTOMS INSPECTION, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING IF AS A MATTER OF PRACTICE, U.S. CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES PERFORM SIMILAR INSPECTION OF HHE AND AUTOMOBILES BELONGING TO PERSONNEL OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS ASSIGNED TO EMBASSIES OR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS IN WASHINGTON.

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3. IF INSPECTION PROCESS IS WAIVED FOR DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL,
AND NOT WAIVED FOR NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, WOULD APPRECIATE
DESCRIPTION OF INSPECTION PROCESS FOR NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CUSTOMS COURTESIES, CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, AUTOMOBILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANJO04134
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740310-0581
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974106/aaaaaexw.tel
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CPR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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30 JUN 2005

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